

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-5, 10, 21-27, and 29-40, objected to claims 6-9, and allowed claims 11, 12, and 14-20. Claims 1, 3-5, 10, 21, 30-32, and 34-35 have been cancelled herein without prejudice. Thus, claims 6-9, 11, 12, 14-20, 22-27, 29, 33, and 36-40 are pending.

In addition, claims 6-8, 22-25, 27, 29, 33, and 36 have been amended. Specifically, claims 6-8 have been re-written in independent form to include the language recited in cancelled independent claim 1. Claims 22-25 and 27 have been re-written in independent form to include the language recited in cancelled independent claim 21 and to recite that the contact surface is connected to the first end of the housing. Claim 29 has been amended to recite that the contact surface is connected to the first end of the housing. Claims 33 and 36 have been re-written in independent form to include the language recited in cancelled independent claim 31 and to recite that the contact surface is connected to the first end of the housing. Support for these amendments can be found throughout Applicants' specification (see, e.g., FIGS 1 and 2). Thus, no new matter has been added.

In light of these amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 6-9, 11, 12, 14-20, 22-27, 29, 33, and 36-40.

Withdrawn Rejections

Applicants acknowledge withdrawal of the rejection of claims 11, 12, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicants also acknowledge that claims 11, 12, and 14-20 are allowed.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 21-27, 29, and 31-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner questioned where the contact surface is connected to the housing.

The meaning of claims 21-27, 29, and 31-40 as previously written is clear and definite. To further prosecution, however, claims 21, 31, 32, 34, and 35 have been cancelled. In addition,

claims 22-25, 27, 29, 33, and 36 have been amended to recite that the contact surface is connected to the first end of the housing. Claim 26 depends from claim 25, and claims 37-40 depend from claim 29.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection to claims 22-27, 29, 33, and 36-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 10, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by MacCall *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,004,806). Applicants respectfully disagree. To further prosecution, however, claims 1, 3, and 10 have been cancelled. Thus, this rejection is moot.

The Examiner also rejected claims 31, 32, 34, and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Serra *et al.* patent (U.S. Patent No. 5,681,335). Applicants respectfully disagree. To further prosecution, however, claims 31, 32, 34, and 35 have been cancelled. Thus, this rejection is moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-5, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over MacCall *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,004,806). Applicants respectfully disagree. To further prosecution, however, claims 1, 3-5, and 10 have been cancelled. Thus, this rejection is moot.

The Examiner also rejected claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Serra *et al.* patent (U.S. Patent No. 5,681,335). Applicants respectfully disagree. To further prosecution, however, claim 21 has been cancelled. Thus, this rejection is moot.

Objected Claims

Claims 6-9 were objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any

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intervening claims. Claims 6-8 have been rewritten in independent form to include the language recited in cancelled independent claim 1. Claim 9 depends from amended claim 8. Thus, claims 6-9 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that claims 6-9, 11, 12, 14-20, 22-27, 29, 33, and 36-40 are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at the telephone number below if such will advance prosecution of this application. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-1050. Please change the Attorney Docket No. to 14256-002001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 31, 2003


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